

# ‘Tropic Lightning’ welcomes its new commander

**SGT. 1ST CLASS JOE BATTLE**  
25th Infantry Division Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Hundreds of “Tropic Lightning” Soldiers from every element of the 25th Infantry Division marched onto Weyand Field, here, April 5, to ceremoniously and personally say goodbye to a seasoned leader and to welcome another.

Before a crowd of fellow Soldiers, community leaders, veterans, friends and families, Maj. Gen. Bernard Champoux relinquished command to Maj. Gen. Kurt Fuller during the 25th ID’s change of command ceremony.

To begin his remarks to the 25th ID, Champoux spoke highly of the character ingrained in the Soldiers he has served with, both while deployed and when at home.

“The ethos of the Soldiers before you could not be more plainly, nor powerfully captured,” he said. “With all their brothers and sisters in the Army, including all of their sister services — active, Guard and Reserve — they are less than 1 percent of America’s population. “They do a lot and are willing to do even more,” he continued. “Although not always perfect, they define, live and, at times, export what is best about America and the character of Americans ... tough, dedicated, faithful, determined, principled, fearless and compassionate.”

Champoux also recognized and declared his appreciation of the families of the Tropic Lightning Division and their support to which he said was essential to the success of the di-



Staff Sgt. William Sallette | 25th Infantry Division Public Affairs

(Left to right) Lt. Gen. Frank Wiercinski, commander, U.S. Army-Pacific; Maj. Gen. Bernard Champoux, outgoing commander, 25th ID; and Maj. Gen. Kurt Fuller, incoming commander, 25th ID, return after passing the colors at the division’s change of command on Weyand Field, Schofield Barracks, April 5.

vision’s missions.

“We acknowledge and appreciate that you also serve and that you are a critical part of our service; we are humbled by your selflessness and by how you handle the many sacrifices,” Champoux said to the families. “We simply couldn’t do it without you, but more impor-

See Ceremony, A-4



Staff Sgt. William Sallette | 25th Infantry Division Public Affairs

Wiercinski (right) passes the colors of the 25th ID to Fuller, incoming commander, while Champoux, outgoing commander, looks on.



Sgt. Karl Williams | 25th Combat Aviation Brigade Public Affairs , 25th Infantry Division

Troops from a variety of units assemble for the 25th ID change of command on Weyand Field, Schofield Barracks.



Sgt. Karl Williams | 25th Combat Aviation Brigade Public Affairs, 25th Infantry Division

Soldiers of the 2nd Battalion, 11th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th ID, fire a cannon salute to render honors to Champoux and Fuller.

# USARPAC breaks ground on new command and control facility

**U.S. ARMY-PACIFIC PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

FORT SHAFTER — U.S. Army-Pacific held a groundbreaking ceremony to inaugurate its new command and control facility operational headquarters, here, Monday.

The completed project will consolidate command and control and supporting functions from 12 separate pre-World War II buildings and temporary trailers.

“Welcome to historic Fort Shafter, where today, we break ground for the Pacific region’s newest command and control facility,” said Lt. Gen. Francis Wiercinski, commander, USARPAC.

“Those of you that have visited our headquarters over the years may have noticed that my office is located in Building T-100. The “T” stands for temporary. Seventy years later, I think it’s safe to say our government got more out of these temporary facilities than we ever bargained for.

“Revising the requirements of mission command and construction of this facility couldn’t be timelier,” Wiercinski continued. “Modern operations are a network centric, collaborative enterprise requiring infrastructure unknown during Word War II.”

After his opening remarks, Wiercinski turned the microphone over to Sen.

Daniel Inouye.

“The first time I visited Fort Shafter was June 1947; I was just retired from the Army,” Inouye said. “When I saw the (T-100), I was taken back because this was the Office of the Supreme Commander of the victorious Army of the Pacific. I was expecting something a little bit more.”

Following Inouye’s comments, the official party moved to the groundbreaking sight where a Hawaiian blessing was given.

The ceremony concluded with the symbolic breaking of the ground by the official party and the playing of “The Army Goes Rolling Along.”



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More emphasis is being placed on appearance, customs and courtesies.

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“War Eagles” and “Gimlets” have boots on the ground in Afghanistan and South Korea.

Mother Earth | B-1

Earth Mother focuses on environmental stewardship and sustainability.

Military Spouses | B-3

First lady announces new hiring effort.



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BACKTObASICS

Customs and courtesies are at unit's forefront

COMMAND SGT. MAJ. MARY L. BROWN

Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, U.S. Army-Pacific

ALIAMANU MILITARY RESERVATION — Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, U.S. Army-Pacific, conducted "back-to-basics" training at the Aliamanu Military Reservation Chapel, here, March 30.

The focus of the unit's noncommissioned officer professional development was on "Military Customs, Courtesies and Traditions," found in Field Manual 7-21.13, Chapter 4 ("Personal Appearance Policies and Uniform Appearance")

and Army Regulation 670-1, Paragraph 1-7 and 1-9.

Befitting for the topics being discussed, the duty uniform for the NCOPD was Army Service Uniform or Class As.

Discussion topics covered general guidelines in the wear and appearance of the uniform and proper conduct while wearing the uniform.

The class also discussed military customs, courtesies and traditions, including the definitions of a custom and a courtesy.



Brown

Briefers gave plenty of examples and held discussions.

The consensus of those in attendance was that, over the past decade of persistent conflict, the Army has lost some of its basics in terms of discipline, some of its customs have fallen by the wayside, and there is a lack of emphasis on military courtesies.

Some points of intense debate were

the importance of the hand salute, why a salute is provided, and reasons behind Soldiers avoiding saluting and returning salutes.

Trainers discussed the seven Army values in depth, and Staff Sgt. Luis Hernandez and Spc. David Vasquez, both with HHBN, USARPAC, gave a class on their personal experiences with the Army's values.

RELATED STORY

• Read about IG conference on page A-4.

8th TSC senior NCOs preserve unit history, tradition

Story and Photo by SGT. GAELIN LOWERS

8th Theater Sustainment Command Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — If you have been in the U.S. Army for longer than a few months, then you have undoubtedly seen or participated in an Army ceremony.

Ceremonies preserve history and tradition, two things the Army holds very dear.

Sergeants major and first sergeants are in charge of the particulars of each and every ceremony a unit or command conducts. But who taught these individuals exactly where the national colors stand in a formation? And do the colors sit on a 10-foot flagstaff or a 9-foot, 6-inch flagstaff? And who sits where in the VIP seating area?

Command Sgt. Maj. Nathan Hunt, senior enlisted leader, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, set out to provide answers to those questions during his noncommissioned officer professional development program, or NCOPD, here, March 26, which reinforced the importance of "getting back to the basics."

In a recent session with the command's senior enlisted Soldiers, Hunt got back to basics by discussing the elements of protocol and tradition, which apply when conducting Army ceremonies such as changes of command and responsibility.

Although Army regulations and field manuals are great guides for properly conducting ceremonies, Hunt emphasized they are just a start. He acknowledged that, surprisingly, ceremonies are a subject in which there is little formal military training.

"The only place you learn about ceremonies is out there on the parade

field," Hunt said. "It puts you in a tight spot (if you are not prepared), and you have to learn it on the fly."

"Command sergeants major are the keepers of the colors," Hunt said, "and ceremonies are their babies. It is their responsibility to make sure that ceremonies run smoothly and are done according to regulations."

Leighton Siu, chief, Protocol, 8th TSC, and members of his staff, provided an expert's perspective, covering topics such as the display of general officer flags, format of event invitations, use of color guards and other key features of an Army ceremony.

Siu warned of some common pitfalls to avoid.

"It doesn't matter how many ceremonies you do; everybody is always trying to outdo the next person," said Siu, a retired Army sergeant major who served 29 years.

Hunt agreed and added, "What happens to us, sometimes, is that we want to get creative, but after adding one thing and another, it turns from a ceremony into something else. Keep it simple, and make sure it makes sense."

Siu suggested that units should always check with their higher command when planning ceremonies to keep from making mistakes.

"Doing things the wrong way is embarrassing to the unit and its commander," Siu said. "This is why Command Sgt. Maj. Hunt wanted to have this NCOPD — to show the right way of doing things."

To assist 8th TSC leaders and establish "what right looks like" throughout the command, Hunt also used the NCOPD as an opportunity to introduce and distribute a new guide detailing the standard operating procedures for conducting ceremonies.



Hunt



Maj. Gen. Michael J. Terry, commander, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, addresses senior NCOs during the NCOPD class at Schofield Barracks, March 26.

The "8th TSC Ceremonies Standard Operating Procedure" is based upon the recently updated Army Drill and Ceremony FM 3-21.5.

"I think that everyone here took away something of value," said Spc. Andrew Armstrong, protocol specialist, 8th TSC,

and one of the day's presenters. "The information that was presented here, today, isn't readily taught in many commands. They will be able to take this information back to their units, and it will improve their ceremonies from here on."

FOOTSTEPS in FAITH

God's grace gives us the gift of faith, transforms our lives

CHAPLAIN (MAJ.) PATRICK R. BASAL

130th Engineer Brigade, 8th Theater Sustainment Command

By now, many of us have seen Mel Gibson's movie, "The Passion." If you have not, I highly encourage you to watch it.

Gibson's movie depicts the traditional passion play format of Holy Week. The movie follows the footsteps of Christ from the time he entered Jerusalem, on Palm Sunday, through his crucifixion, to the morning of his resurrection.

The Lenten season ended with Christ's triumphal entry on Palm Sunday, and then we moved into the Easter season, which began with his resurrection, a time of renewing and rebirth.

Now that Easter is over, it becomes apparent that we are provided with the perfect occasion to focus our spiritual walk on the central teachings of our faith — that of justification by grace through faith in Christ alone.

The doctrine of justification by the gift of grace is grounded in the full atonement that Christ won by spilling his blood and dying on a wooden cross.

In Scripture, atonement is referred to in terms of redemption, expiation, reconciliation and the taking away of the stain of sin. Sin then, is an offense to God, a debt we owe, a broken relationship between God and us, a stain that we cannot remove or blot out.

1 Timothy 2:4 states, "But God desires all men to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth."

God has done everything necessary to pay for our debt to reconcile, liberate and forgive us, in order to bring us back into fellowship with him. It's all God's doing, not ours.



Basal

God gives us the gift of grace, not because we deserve it or because we have earned it by doing good things. Grace is entirely his free gift to give, and he does so willingly. It is given by his grace alone.

Ephesians 2:8-9 states, "For by grace you have been saved through faith — and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God — not because of works, least any man should boast."

The wonderful Gospel is that it is God alone by his grace that gives us the gift of faith and transforms our hearts and lives into something new and beautiful. It is through the heroic endurance of Christ as he forgave his tormentors for the merciless cruelty of being tortured and crucified, which express how much and by what means our transformation was accomplished.

Let us then respond in kind and forgive others for what they have done to us. For it is through the act of repenting and forgiving that we are brought back into fellowship with God.

Voices of Ohana

April is Sexual Assault Prevention Month. See related story on A-5.

What more can be done to prevent sexual assaults in the military?

Photos by U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs



"Ensure that all units have a unit victim advocate and that they are aware of what victims' rights are."

**Ernest Jackson**  
Education Specialist, ACS



"The community needs to be aware that there is advocacy and protection available for victims to come forward."

**Fiona Mosley**  
Family Action Plan Prevention and Education Team, ACS



"Soldiers should show more respect towards one another. Respect would create a safe haven for victims."

**Filomena Thompson**  
New Parent Support Group, ACS



"We all need to be educated that no one wants to be sexually assaulted. Married or not, no means no."

**Ginny Wescott**  
Family Action Plan Prevention and Education Team, ACS



"It's important to remove the stigma from sexual assaults and to get all the facts."

**Margaret Winkler**  
New Parent Support Group, ACS



# ‘Gimlets’ continue a legacy, return to South Korea

**SGT. ROBERT M. ENGLAND**  
2nd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs, 25th Infantry Division

**SCHOFIELD BARRACKS** — In July 1950, about 400 “Gimlet” Soldiers dug into their positions near the village of Osan in South Korea.

The Gimlet Soldiers held the line as North Korean tanks approached; the battle that ensued marked the first U.S. ground action of the Korean War.

More than 60 years later, the Soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, “Gimlets,” 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, have returned to South Korea, but under much more favorable conditions.

Every year, U.S. military units deploy to South Korea to conduct Foal Eagle, a joint-combined training exercise conducted with the intent of enhancing both U.S. forces and the Republic of Korea’s alliance, said Maj. Blake Lackey, Operations officer in charge, 1st Bn., 21st Inf. Regt., 2nd BCT.

“This annual exercise integrates the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines from the U.S. Pacific theater into an exercise to highlight capabilities of rapid force projection and deployment across the spectrum of the joint forces,” Lackey said. “It shows our ability to coordinate, plan and execute training with our ROK allies, whether it’s ROK Army, Air Force, Marines or Navy.”

During this monthlong operation, the U.S. and ROK forces will share knowledge as they plan, resource and execute training, Lackey said.

“The ROK army will be focused on the defense of the ROK,” Lackey said. “Our focus will

be two-fold: validating our ability to rapidly project and defend the ROK, and conducting training operations focused at the squad level that enable us to integrate with the ROK army’s defense of the peninsula.”

The culminating event for Foal Eagle will be a combined exercise with a ROK tank platoon and an antitank platoon from Company B, 52nd Inf. Regt., which is attached to the Gimlet Bn. A live-fire exercise will test both the U.S. and ROK forces’ abilities to work together.

“The combined defensive live fire is combined from the start of planning all the way through the end of execution,” Lackey said. “We do that by combining the training from the lowest level, at the squad level, all the way up to the battalion staff level, where we can incorporate them into our training plans and exercises, so that they see how we operate and we see how they operate.”

Their proficiency at defensive operations and high-intensity conflicts will also afford the Gimlets an opportunity to learn from their ROK army partners, Lackey said.

As the Gimlet Bn. prepares to train in high-intensity conflict and transition to full-spectrum operations, the experience should provide invaluable insight for future Gimlet operations, he added.

Moving a battalion of Soldiers, their equipment and Stryker vehicles takes diligent planning. Lackey said that the battalion staff had only a few weeks between the time it received the mission until troops were expected to be on ground in Korea.

Part of the mission of a Stryker-centric unit, however, is to move all combat assets quickly. Foal Eagle tested the Gimlets’ ability as an ex-



Courtesy Photo

Soldiers from the 1st Bn., 21st Inf. Regt., “Gimlets,” 2nd BCT, 25th ID, prepare to offload Stryker vehicles at Camp Casey, South Korea, March 28, in preparation for Foal Eagle, a joint combined training exercise with the ROK’s military forces. Thier arrival marks the first time the battalion has been to South Korea since 1950 when Gimlet Soldiers assisted the ROK’s army in defending key locations from invading forces during the Korean War.

As Gimlet Soldiers downloaded their vehicles from flatbed trailers and unloaded their gear from overseas containers, they were continuing the legacy left behind by the Gimlets who fought alongside ROK army Soldiers more than 60 years ago.

## 25th CAB continues mentorship role

Story and Photo by  
**SGT. DANIEL SCHROEDER**  
25th Combat Aviation Brigade Public Affairs, 25th Infantry Division

**KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan** — Kandahar Air Wing aircrews led an air assault in which they transported Afghan National Police officers and soldiers from 6th Kandak, 205th Corps, Afghan National army, here, April 1, with mentorship from the 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, 25th Infantry Division.

“Every step went well,” said Maj. Judah Lyons, plans officer, 25th CAB. “They executed the mission proficiently and demonstrated professionalism during the operation.”

The air assault consisted of a total of 60 ANA soldiers and ANP officers requiring two separate assaults to be made on two different landing zones.

“I am very happy to have conducted a successful operation,” said Capt. Nazar Aziz, a pilot with the Afghan Air Wing, Afghan Air Force. “One of the things that allowed for us to be successful was the good communication between the ground-to-air and between the helicopters.”

Communication was a critical factor in the success of the mission. The communication between all parties involved allowed the operation to run smoother, which was important considering the increased amount of soldiers, police officers and land-



ing zones involved.

The air assault was the third to be executed since the KAW and 25th CAB began working together in early January. Solid progress has been made since the last air assault when the KAW dropped off one group of 20 ANA soldiers. In this operation, aircrews inserted three times more troops onto the battlefield from the last air assault.

“This is the most complex air assault they have done to date, which shows definite progress in the right direction,” Lyons said.

More air assaults are planned between the KAW and 25th CAB, with each one allowing the Afghan Air Wing to progressively take a stronger lead while the 25th CAB continues to transition from assisting to watching.

## Medal of Honor recipient visits ‘War Eagles’

**SGT. DANIEL SCHROEDER**  
25th Combat Aviation Brigade Public Affairs, 25th Infantry Division

**KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan** — A Vietnam War Medal of Honor recipient visited Soldiers of the 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, here, March 29-30.

Retired Col. Bruce Crandall, who received the medal for his heroic actions as a flight commander in the battle of Ia Drang, Nov. 14, 1965, shared his experiences and wisdom about the Army aviation community.

Crandall began his visit with the 25th CAB at Mustang Ramp, where he visited several maintenance hangars and met face-to-face with Soldiers.



Crandall

“We wear the medal for the others who didn’t get it.”

**Retired Col. Bruce Crandall**  
Medal of Honor Recipient

“I have always wanted to come out here to Afghanistan and visit our troops,” Crandall said. “It’s a pleasure to be here and to have these young men and women serving in the Army.”

After his visit to Mustang Ramp, Crandall attended a dinner in his honor.

“It is always a pleasure to meet Col. Crandall,” said Chief Warrant Officer 5 Mike Kelly, tactical operations and personnel recovery officer, 25th CAB. “What he provided to the service and Army aviation community inspired me to join flight school.”

During the second day of his visit, Crandall conducted a question and answer session with Soldiers from across the brigade. Soldiers asked questions to learn more about Crandall’s Army experiences.

“All 81 of the living Medal of Honor recipients feel the same way about this award, Crandall said. “This should have gone to all my men who were there. We wear the medal for the others who didn’t get it.”

On Nov. 14, 1965, Crandall’s flight of 16 helicopters was lifting troops for a search and destroy mission from Plei Me, Vietnam, to Landing Zone X-Ray in the Ia Drang Valley, when the airlift began to take enemy fire.

At the time, he was serving with the Company A, 229th Assault Helicopter Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile).

He was awarded the Medal of Honor for his “... conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty.”

**Medal of Honor**  
To learn more about retired Col. Bruce Crandall’s actions leading to his Medal of Honor, visit  
•www.cmohs.org.

## Medics teach causes, effects of hearing loss to ANA

Story and Photo by  
**SGT. DANIEL SCHROEDER**  
25th Combat Aviation Brigade Public Affairs, 25th Infantry Division

**KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan** — Medical personnel from the Afghan National army received detailed training with health care specialists of the 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, at the Sgt. Louie A. Ramos Aid Station, here, March 27.

The training provided ANA medical officer Master Sgt. Rahim an in-depth understanding of operating a hearing booth, to include providing a diagnosis and recommended treatment.

“It is really good to work with the coalition forces,” Rahim said. “We don’t have this kind of equipment at our facility; it is great to come here and receive detailed training.”

During the training session, Rahim used the soundproof hearing test booth to conduct a test on Ismaeel, a pilot with the Kandahar Air Wing.

“Rahim comprehended the training very well,” said Sgt. David Harrington, health care specialist, Headquarters Support Company, 209th Avn. Support Battalion, 25th CAB. “This was his first time with audiogram training. He was interested in how it worked and asked questions about areas he was uncertain on.”

The training focused on administering



Maj. Nicole Powell-Dunford (right), brigade surgeon, 25th CAB, 25th ID, demonstrates a technique to check the ear drums of a patient during a training session with ANA and 25th CAB medical personnel on Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan, March 27.

an audiograms to the pilots and assessing the results produced by the hearing booth.

Training was designed to show the difference in results produced from using a portable audiogram machine and an audiogram booth.

Unlike the portable audiogram, the booth eliminates any extra noise in the surrounding environment, and its settings are controlled by a computer.

After the test, Rahim and 25th CAB

medics discussed test results and addressed concerns.

Medical personnel then examined the pilots to show how to identify potential causes of hearing loss.

“This was a great opportunity for me to learn how to conduct a hearing test, and then be able to diagnose the cause and possible treatments for hearing damage,” Rahim said. “I am looking forward to continuing training with my coalition partners.”



# Ceremony: Champoux thanks division Soldiers for support

CONTINUED FROM A-1

tantly, we wouldn't want to do it without you." Champoux has commanded the 25th ID since Feb. 19, 2010.

He has led the division through combat deployments in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation New Dawn. He was also the last U.S. division commander on the ground in Iraq.

As such, he was directly responsible for overseeing operational-level command and



Sgt. Karl Williams | 25th Combat Aviation Brigade Public Affairs, 25th Infantry Division

A color guard passes the reviewing stand during the 25th Infantry Division's change of command ceremony on Weyand Field, Schofield Barracks April 5.

control needed to facilitate the historical withdrawal of U.S. forces from Iraq in compliance with the 2008 Security Agreement. The security agreement called for the withdrawal all U.S. combat troops by the end of 2011.

During his opening remarks, Lt. Gen. Francis Wiercinski, commander, U.S. Army-Pacific, defined the way Champoux handled and accomplished the historic task of drawing all U.S. forces out of Iraq by proclaiming to the crowd, "No one else could have done it better than he did."

Before commanding the 25th ID, Champoux held previous positions within the division. He served as the assistant division commander for Operations, and commander, 1st Battalion, 27th Inf. Regiment "Wolfhounds," 2nd Brigade Combat Team.

When the division deployed to Afghanistan, he served as the deputy commanding general for Operations, Combined Joint Task Force 76.

Champoux later returned to Afghanistan and served as both deputy commander for Security, and deputy chief of staff for Operations, International Security and Assistance Force.

Champoux's next assignment is to serve as the assistant chief of staff of the United Nations Command/Combined Forces Command/U.S. Forces Korea and deputy commanding general of 8th U.S. Army in Korea.

"All right. I'm done ... literally," Champoux announced, jokingly, to the crowd. "Thank you for all you do and have done for these Soldiers, our families and this division. And thank you for your faithful service, love, support and friendship. It has been an honor of a lifetime to serve



Sgt. Karl Williams | 25th Combat Aviation Brigade Public Affairs, 25th Infantry Division

The Fuller family receives aloha greetings from Beverly Tate (far left, in purple), spouse of Col. Frank Tate, commander, 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, 25th ID; and Toni Ruiz, spouse of Command Sgt. Maj. Jesus Ruiz, 25th CAB.

in your ranks and to wear the Tropic Lightning patch.

"Mahalo nui loa. Malama Pono. Ke akua pu ... A hui hou — Tropic Lightning!" Champoux concluded.

After his remarks, Champoux turned to his successor, gave a firm handshake and turned control of the podium to Fuller. Fuller comes to

the 25ID from Fort Bragg, N.C., where he served as the deputy commanding general, U.S. Army Special Operations Command.

"We couldn't be happier to be here," Fuller announced to the crowd and Soldiers in formation. "I am honored and humbled to assume the duties as your commanding general and pledge my full commitment. Tropic Lightning!"

## Engineers, garrison breaks ground on new complex

Story and Photo by  
**DINO W. BUCHANAN**  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-  
Honolulu District Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — With the turning of soil by seven Hawaiian "O'o" sticks, here, April 9, officials with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, and Nordic PCL Construction broke ground on a new, \$59.085 million Warriors in Transition Barracks and complex during a traditional Hawaiian site blessing ceremony.

The new 120 personnel Soldier barracks and the complex, which includes a Soldier Family Assistance Center, or SFAC, will be built on the existing parking area adjacent to the post health clinic.

"This is an enormously important project for us and our Soldiers," said Col. Jay Hammer, executive officer, USAG-HI. "It's important for those Soldiers that have gone into combat and returned hurt with sustained, lifelong injuries."

During the ceremony, Lt. Col. Douglas Guttormsen, commander, USACE-Honolulu District, told guests construction of this project showcases the Corps' commitment to building quality facilities for the garrison and for wounded warriors returning from deployments.

"Half of this new barracks will be the same as those recently built here at Schofield, but the other half will be different — being uniquely designed

with the wounded warrior in mind," Guttormsen said.

"These new facilities are being constructed in order to support the wounded warriors' needs and for Soldiers currently occupying the Warrior Transition Battalion trailers and Building 692."

Stephanie Garvin, deputy commander, Warrior Transition Battalion, told guests the battalion is eagerly looking forward to consolidating its operations into one location.

"Currently, our battalion is spread out in numerous locations around the post, and these new facilities will allow us to work from one location and provide the best services possible," Garvin said. "It will make it easier not only for the wounded Soldiers, but their families, as well."

The design-build construction contract for the barracks and SFAC complex was awarded to Nordic PCL Construction, March 2011. Completion is scheduled for October 2013.

This design-build construction contract is for building two structures: the five-story, 120-person barracks and a four-story building combining the SFAC, two company operations facilities, one battalion headquarters, a central plant, parking and other supporting facilities.

The project is being done in two phases, as existing parking is first being removed and additional parking is being created along McCor-



Col. Jay Hammer (third from right), executive officer, USAG-HI, leads the turning of the soil ground breaking for the \$59.05 million Warriors in Transition Barracks and complex at Schofield Barracks, April 2. Also participating are (left to right) Lloyd Arakaki, Architects Hawaii; Dickson Ma, Schofield Barracks area engineer, USACE-HD; Maj. Stephanie Garvin, deputy commander, Warrior Transition Battalion, Schofield Barracks; Glen Kaneshige, president, Nordic PCL; Lt. Col. Douglas Guttormsen, commander, USACE-HD; and Owen Ogata, construction project engineer, USACE-HD.

nack Road, across from the Dental Clinic.

Once the parking area phase is complete, then construction of the two structures will commence. There will be a net gain of 170 parking stalls, with 255 total spaces after completion.

The barracks will be constructed in a unique design to accommodate wounded warriors and will have American with Disabilities Act-compliant features.

Sustainability and protecting the

environment are also key components in the construction of this barracks, as several significant innovations and energy-saving elements will be included in the barracks, such as solar water heating and high-efficiency appliances and plumbing systems.

The building is also being made photovoltaic ready. Nordic will pursue Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Silver, or LEED, certification through the U.S. Green Building Council.

## Army IG visits to discuss direction

**SGT. GAELN LOWERS**  
8th Theater Sustainment  
Command Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER — The Army is in a period of change and Soldiers and leaders at every level are feeling the effects of the military's drawdown.

That's why Lt. Gen. Peter Vangel, Army inspector general, and Lt. Gen Wiercinski, commander, U.S. Army-Pacific, gathered with USARPAC's senior leadership, here, April 3, to discuss the Army's new direction.

"This is my third drawdown since I've been in the Army," Wiercinski said. "The sky is not falling and the roof is not caving in."

"Being a professional in the U.S. Army — what does that encompass?" Wiercinski asked his senior leaders. "Our history, our legacy, our essence. The essence of being a Soldier. We all took an oath to support and defend the constitution of the U.S. against all enemies, both foreign and domestic."

He then asked how to make sure that each Soldier remains on track with the essence of today's Army.

"That's your job," Wiercinski told his leaders. "I ask you to come back to me with recommendations on how we track and look at that, and, also, how we are making sure that we are maintaining the professionalism of the Army."

"What you heard from (Wiercinski) today is no different than what you would hear from Gen. (Raymond) Odierno, (Army Chief of Staff)," Vangel said. "It's time to get back to the basics."

One of the most important points the IG made was non-commissioned officers will not be kept from or denied professional development.

The schooling and professional development that the Army provides all of its NCOs is what helps make the NCO Corps the backbone of the Army.

"This is the jewel in our profession, and we can't lose it," Vangel said.

"We're still the best-equipped, manned and resourced Army in the world," Weircinski concluded. "We're going back to the basics and will continue to be able to defend this country from any and all attacks."

## Phase two re-up of current FY window open for Soldiers

**CHERYL RODEWIG**  
Army News Service

FORT BENNING, Ga. — The Army is now six weeks into phase two of this fiscal year's re-enlistment window, open to Soldiers whose expiration of term of service, or ETS, falls between Oct. 1, 2011, to Sept. 30, 2012.

The first phase ran from October 2011-January 2012, said Staff Sgt. William Cunningham, career counselor, here, with the 192nd Infantry Brigade. The second is expected to close at the end of September, though the date is still tentative.

Cunningham said these are the shortest re-enlistment windows he's seen since he joined in 1997, and it reflects the Army's goal of 26,000 separations from service in the next three years.

"The Army, as a whole, is in a position that they haven't been in for the last five to six years," he said.

With the proposed drawdown of 70,000 active duty Soldiers by 2017,

the pace at which Soldiers will be re-enlisting will slow, Cunningham said.

"With that in mind, all eligible Soldiers in the re-enlistment window should see their career counselor now to go over their options and ensure they have a 'seat at the table' before the opportunity goes away," he added.

Sgt. Maj. of the Army Raymond Chandler said the Army is committed to making these cuts responsibly, and professionalism will remain one of the determining qualities for Soldiers who wish to remain a part of the downsizing force, the Army News Service reported Feb. 24.

"For me, there are three criteria to identify professional Soldiers: competence, or the ability to do your job and do it well; character, the understanding that a Soldier acts on behalf of the nation, rather than his or herself; and commitment, which is a personal calling to serve in the Army and the nation, before all else," Chandler said.

Cunningham said while Soldiers could previously think in two- to three-year increments for re-enlistments, it's now essential to have a broader view.

"I think Soldiers need to think more long term as far as what they

need to do in the military," he said. "They need to go to the schools. They need to ... get degrees. They need to stay out of trouble. We want to keep the best. They need to make themselves competitive."

For those in the grade of staff sergeant and above who are not serving on an indefinite re-enlistment contract, there are some special considerations they must meet for re-enlistment, Cunningham said.

They will be deemed unqualified if their official military personnel file contains one of the following:

- Relief for cause in the noncommissioned officer evaluation report, or NCOER.
- "No" marked in part six of an NCOER, which deals with the Army values.
- Rating of a four (fair) or five (poor) in part five of an NCOER, which deals with the senior rater, or
- Service school academic evaluation report indicating a failure in an NCO course.

"Another major change with the new re-enlistment requirements is the denial and approval authority for a fully qualified Soldier," Cunningham said. "Previously, denial of re-enlistment of a fully qualified Soldier — whose performance didn't war-

rant a bar to re-enlistment — had to go to the Department of the Army level for approval.

"Now, the approval and denial authority rests on first brigade or (colonel) level commander in the Soldier's chain of command," he continued. "At the DA level, you just have somebody looking at your records who doesn't know you. (They're) just seeing a number. Your command knows you."

With it being easier to deny a Soldier re-enlistment, since the decision now rests at a lower level of command, counseling is particularly vital, Cunningham said, "from the squad leader on up."

He estimated most Soldiers have nearly a dozen counseling sessions throughout the year, including at least one by their commander supplemented with several others by their career counselor and squad leader or section sergeant.

Sessions start within a month of a Soldier's arrival at a unit.

"Soldiers need to have some initiative," Cunningham said. "Don't wait for somebody to come to you. Take care of your career. When it all boils down to it, it's a personal responsibility because it's your career. It's your profession."

**Re-enlistments**  
To get the latest information about re-enlistment requirements, contact your unit career counselor or retention NCO.



# Odierno discussess assault prevention

**STAFF SGT. BROOKS FLETCHER**  
Army News Service

HEIDELBERG, Germany — Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Raymond Odierno has released a podcast that discusses Army values and sexual assault and harassment prevention.

Odierno recorded the podcast during his tour of the European theater, April 3. The podcast can be viewed on the U.S. Army Europe YouTube channel.

“(Sexual assault and sexual harassment) are inconsistent with our values. It’s not consistent with the trust we expect to have between Soldiers,” Odierno said. “As part of

the Army profession, it really is about our values, our moral and ethical values. It is also about what I consider to be the basic component and fundamental foundation of the profession, which is trust.”

Through the Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention Program, the Army can reinforce its commitment to eliminate incidents of sexual assault and sexual harassment through awareness and prevention, training, victim advocacy, reporting and accountability.

The Army remains committed in this effort to eliminate incidents of sexual assaults and educate Soldiers, civilians and family

members through intervention, prevention and reporting procedures.

“It is important during this month that we reflect on this and we try to do everything we can to ensure that all Soldiers, male or female, feel comfortable serving,” Odierno said.

Sexual assault and harassment are incomprehensible and inconsistent with Army values, Odierno said, and ending this misconduct is a responsibility that belongs to everyone.

*(Editor’s Note: Fletcher writes for U.S. Army-Europe Public Affairs in Heidelberg, Germany.)*

## About SAAM

National Sexual Assault Awareness Month, or SAAM, is an annual campaign to raise public awareness and educate communities on the prevention of sexual violence.

As a public health, human rights and social justice issue, sexual violence affects many and has secondary and tertiary effects on society.

- The Department of the Army’s SAAM observance is in its eighth year.

The campaign continues to convey the Army’s commitment to achieve cultural change by eradicating sexual assault and sexual harassment through its prevention, investigation, prosecution and survivor support/protection efforts.

- The Army’s 2012 SAAM proclamation and theme, “Achieving Cultural Change through Dignity and Respect,” is designed to strengthen leaderships commitment at all levels and reinforce the importance of respect and dignity.
- The Army has significantly raised awareness about sexual harassment and sexual assault through the proliferation of required training in all units, in primary military education courses, and among first responders.
- The Army will continue to aggressively address sexual harassment and sexual assault issues.

Senior Army leaders consider the sexual harassment and sexual assault prevention strategy an integral part of the Profession of Arms doctrine.

*(Editor’s Note: Information compiled by the Department of the Army Public Affairs.)*

## News Briefs

Send announcements for Soldiers and civilian employees to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

### Today

**Voting Assistance** — Visit the Federal Voting Assistance Program website at [www.FVAP.gov](http://www.FVAP.gov) for help with absentee voting. You can also call the FVAP at (703) 588-1584 or (800) 438-VOTE (8683); email [vote@fvap.gov](mailto:vote@fvap.gov).

Voting materials are available from the U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Records Holding Area/Forms Center, Building 6042, 1976 Higgins Rd., East Range, Schofield Barracks, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday. Call 656-0334.

### 19 / Thursday

**TARP Training** — The Threat Awareness and Reporting Program, or TARP training, is held every Thursday at 9 a.m. Training sessions in April follow:

- April 19, Main Post Conference Room, Schofield Barracks.
- April 26, Main Auditorium, Camp Smith. Call 655-1306.

**Autism Awareness Meeting** — This meeting will be held 5:30-8 p.m., April 19, in the Anuenue Café conference room, Tripler Army Medical Center.

Events include a guest speaker from Autism Speaks, diet modification and feeding issues, and information on the upcoming Autism Walk. Child care or respite care will not be provided, but all are welcome to attend. Email [to dd . h e e r @ a m e d d . army.mil](mailto:to dd . h e e r @ a m e d d . army.mil) or call 433-8687.

### 28 / Saturday

**National Take Back Day** — Turn in unused or expired

medication for safe, anonymous disposal on National Take Back Initiative Day, April 28. The military community (Soldiers, family members and civilians) can dispose of unwanted and unused prescription drugs at three locations, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.:

- Exchange (inside, near the flower shop), Schofield Barracks;
- Marine Corps Exchange (front), Kaneohe Bay; and
- Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Exchange. The off-post population can also participate in National Prescription Take Back Day at four locations on Oahu, also from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.:
- Mililani Town Center (middle of Center), 95-1249 Meheula Pkwy;
- Hawaii State Capitol, 415 S. Beretania St., Honolulu;
- Kapolei Police Station (parking lot), 1100 Kamokila Blvd.; and
- Windward Mall (center court area), 46-056 Kamehameha Hwy, Kaneohe. Call 541-1930 or visit [www.dea.gov](http://www.dea.gov).

## May

### 19 / Saturday

**Living History Day** — This event is 10 a.m.-3 p.m., May 19, U.S. Army Museum of Hawaii, Fort DeRussy, in Waikiki, to commemorate Armed Forces Day. Events include military memorabilia; war period re-enactors; and hands-on artifact displays.

Parking is available across the street from the museum. Call 438-2822 or email [judith.a.bowman.civ@mail.mil](mailto:judith.a.bowman.civ@mail.mil)

## Ongoing

**Ohana Clinic** — Tripler’s Warrior Ohana Medical Home is accepting enrollment.

The center is a full-service, primary care clinic, open 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday, at 91-1010 Shangrila St., Ste. 100, in Kalaeloa. Call 433-5401/5402.





# Garrison, IPC host variety of events during Earth Month

## U.S. ARMY GARRISON-HAWAII PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii and Island Palm Communities continue to celebrate Earth Month by hosting a variety of activities that inspire people to learn and care for the environment.

This year’s USAG-HI Earth Month theme, “Give Back: Do Something for the Earth,” focuses on environmental stewardship and sustainability, and is echoed across nearly 20 events scheduled for April.

“This monthlong celebration is a time to show respect for Planet Earth and all of the resources it provides,” said Col. Douglas Mulbury, commander, USAG-HI.

USAG-HI and IPC are partnering with organizations island-wide to conduct service projects and awareness activities on Army installations and in neighboring communities.

“These events help remind us all — Soldiers, family members and civilians — that environmental responsibility is more than a one-day event,” Mulbury said.

Earth Month activities include three organized trash cleanups along Oahu beaches and streams, and a variety of events to include dumpster diving for recyclable items, greening your workplace office visits, environmental game shows, tree plantings, cultural resources tours and open houses, endangered species exhibits, storm drain marker emplacement, movie nights, reusable bag promotion and volunteer service trips to clean out invasive weeds.



### Earth Month Activities

To get the latest details of happenings visit  
•[www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil/sustainability/EarthMonth/EarthMonth2012.html](http://www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil/sustainability/EarthMonth/EarthMonth2012.html)

## Focus on Earth Day, fun



Courtesy Photo

Earth Day Festival participants excavated a pool filled with sand and lost treasures at the Army’s Cultural Resources exhibit, April 7, at Schofield Barracks. Through the exercise children learned about archeology and the excavation of historical artifacts found under layers of earth.

### ISLAND PALM COMMUNITIES

News Release

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Thousands of family members converged on Weyand Field for the annual Fun Fest and Earth Day festivals, here, Saturday.

The multifaceted festival received promising reviews and featured traditional Easter events, including egg hunts and hands-on Earth Day activities that stressed environmental awareness.

“It’s great,” said David Gill, who came out with wife Christine and their two children, Trinity and Donovan, to enjoy the free activities. “They’re having fun and learning at the same time. It’s a win-win.”

The Gill family carried a container filled with worms they had dug up at a compost bin organized by students and teachers from Hale Kula Elementary School, here.

Donovan, 4, planned to feed the worms “lettuce and broccoli.”

The festivities kicked off with the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation’s Enchanted Breakfast, which gave kids an opportunity to meet their favorite storybook characters.

Feeling energized after the hearty breakfast, the Gill family set out to explore dozens of games and activities and seek

out scrumptious fair-type food and treats at booths hosted by nearly a dozen units raising funds to support their members and outreach programs.

FMWR’s Army Leisure Travel Office hosted a travel fair offering great discounts and travel deals, while young performing artists from DFMWR’s School of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration, and Skills Unlimited, or SKIES, provided entertainment.

Another main attraction offered dozens of hands-on activities that emphasized the importance of preserving the environment and conserving natural resources.

The Sgt. Yano Library and IPC co-sponsored the Trash-formation Recycled Art Contest exhibit featuring creativity, wild imaginations and humor. Aspiring artists repurposed materials that would have ended up in the trash to create their masterpieces that conveyed the theme, “Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.”

Col. Douglas Mulbury, commander, USAG-HI, presented winners with a commander’s coin; Mark Frey, project director, IPC, handed out medals, certificates and prizes.

The Directorate of Public Works and Is-

land Palm Communities have successfully worked together for several years to host the annual Earth Day Festival; they were again joined by local environmental organizations and businesses.

Food booths, bouncers and rides racked up brisk business while raising funds for various organizations. Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers, or BOSS, offered cookies and candy bars at its food booth; funds raised will help support programs for single Soldiers, single parents and geographic bachelors.

Annual BOSS initiatives include volunteering for community service in outreach initiatives such as Big Brothers, Big Sisters, PT in the Park, and the Sony Open.

### IPC Earth Day Festival South

Another Earth Day Festival featuring exhibits, activities and live entertainment will be held April 28 at Fort Shafter Flats. This festival is among several activities taking place throughout April to celebrate Earth Month. Visit  
•[www.islandpalmcommunities.com/go/earthmonth](http://www.islandpalmcommunities.com/go/earthmonth) for details.



Courtesy Photo

Children help build a forest at last week’s “Who is Caring for our Hawaiian Forests?” challenge presented by the Directorate of Public Work’s Natural Resources team as part of Earth Month activities.

## ‘Power’ show tests skill about energy

### ISLAND PALM COMMUNITIES

News Release

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — So you think you know everything about conservation?

Then don’t miss Island Palm Communities’ first-ever live game show, “I Got the Power!” April 18 at the Aliamanu Community Center. The winner will be awarded \$100.

The first 40 residents who sign up on the day of the event can

compete in a physical challenge elimination round. Winners of round one will advance to the next round to test their knowledge of energy conservation and U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii’s utility program.

The top two winners will then compete in the final round to win \$100. All contestants will receive a complimentary gift

The “I Got the Power!” live game show is one of several activities tak-

ing place throughout Earth Month, made possible by USAG-HI and IPC.

### IPC Earth Day Festival

Enjoy free, family events for Earth Month with Island Palms. Visit

•[www.islandpalmcommunities.com/go/earthmonth](http://www.islandpalmcommunities.com/go/earthmonth)



### Earth Month happenings

•April 14, 8-11 a.m. — Military and civilian volunteers will participate in a beach and berm cleanup and storm drain stenciling event hosted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at the Pacific Regional Visitor Center, Fort DeRussy, Waikiki.

•April 14, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Windward Mall Earth Day, Kaneohe. Oahu Army Natural Resources Program will be joining other conservation organizations for an exhibit that will focus on Oahu’s endangered plants and animals. The exhibit is supported by OANRP to protect these fragile treasures.  
Call 656-7741.

•April 18, 3-4:30 p.m., Kalakaua Community Center, 2535 Waianae Uka Ave., Schofield Barracks. Participate in the interactive “Who is caring for our Hawaiian Forests?” followed by Disney’s “Planet Earth.” Call 687-8313.

•April 18, 3-4 p.m., Aliamanu Community Center. I Got the Power Game Show, sponsored by IPC. The first 40 residents who sign-up for this live game show on the day of the event will compete in a physical challenge elimination round, and then test their knowledge of energy conservation and the Army’s utility program.  
All contestants will receive a complimentary “mahalo” gift; the

winner will receive \$100. Call 687-8313.

•April 18, 10:30-11 a.m., Schofield Barracks. The Hale Kula Elementary Gardening Club will showcase its new SYNERGY Outdoor Classroom during student-led tours at the school.

Tours will feature the outdoor classroom’s rainwater harvesting and native plant gardens as well as the Hale Kula Gardening Club’s working garden. Call 656-3086.

•April 18, 2-3 p.m., Brostrom Community Center, Fort Shafter. Storm drain marker emplacement, which is a Soldier-supported activity to mark storm drains with the important pol-

lution prevention messages. Call 656-3086.

•April 19, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Bio-retention and rain garden cleanup, Building 766 parking lot, Schofield Barracks. Bio-retention and rain garden cleanup with 70th Engineer Battalion, 130th Eng. Brigade, 8th Theater Sustainment Command. Soldier-supported cleanup to maintain water quality improvement bio-retention feature that treats storm water runoff from the parking lot. Call 656-3086.

•April 20, various times/locations, the Amazing Tree Race. Celebration of the national observance of Arbor Day tree planting will take place on four installations:  
-10 a.m. Fort Shafter;  
-noon, Aliamanu;  
-2 p.m., Helemano; and  
-4 p.m., Wheeler Army Airfield.  
Tree-planting ceremonies are the first step in attaining Tree City USA recognition for each installation. Call 687-8313.

•April 21, 7:30 a.m.-noon. Army volunteers will partner with the City and County of Honolulu during the Mauka to Makai bike path cleanup that stretches from Pearl Harbor to Waipahu Depot Road. Meet at Blaisdell Park in Honolulu to assist. Call 438-1600, ext. 3307.

•April 22, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Kahana-haiki, Makua Military Reservation. Volunteer service trip to clean out invasive weeds for two hours along a moderately challenging trail. Hike will include a detour to view Makua Valley and leeward coast. Volunteer application must be received at OANRP at least two weeks prior to the event. Minimum age 14. Call 656-7741.

•April 24, time/specific motor pool to be determined. Live demonstration of bio-based “green” products. Call 656-3103.

•April 25, 3-4:30 p.m., IPC’s “Planet Earth” movie night at Aliamanu Community Center.





Today

**Military Spouse Career Fair and Expo** — This ACS-sponsored event is 10 a.m.-1 p.m., April 13, Kalakaua Community Center, Schofield Barracks. More than 50 local and off-island employers will be present. Event includes classes on resume preparation. Call 655-4227.

Special presentations include the following:

- 10 a.m. and 11 a.m., “The Mind”; Dr. Brandi Chew, ACS psychologist, will discuss how to connect resiliency to the employment journey.
- 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m., “The Attire,” dressing for job interviews.
- Noon, “The Look,” skin care.
- 12:30 p.m., “The Body,” nutrition and fitness.

**Right Arm Night** — 5 p.m., April 13, Hale Ikena, Fort Shafter. Cost is \$5 in advance or \$8 at the door. Enjoy a ballpark menu buffet and play in the Texas Hold ‘em Tournament for prizes. Call 438-1974.

**Friday Night Entertainment Series** — See new acts at 8 p.m. each Friday at Kolekole Bar and Grill at Schofield Barracks. Call 655-4466.

14 / Saturday

**Read to the Dogs** — Keiki who can read on their own can read to therapy and service dogs, April 14, Sgt. Yano Library.

Sign up for a 15-minute session by calling 655-8002.

16 / Monday

**Free Hula Classes** — The Native Hawaiian Liaison Office, USAG-HI, conducts free hula classes for Soldiers and families. Beginner classes are 5-6 p.m.; advanced classes are 6-7 p.m. Call 655-9694 or email nhliaison@gmail.com. Class dates follow:

- Mondays, Kalakaua Community Center, Schofield Barracks.
- Tuesdays, AMR Community Center.

17 / Tuesday

**Financial Readiness Program** — A financial counselor will be available at the Shafter ACS Office, Room 111, every Tuesday until further notice. Make an appointment by calling 438-9285.

**Keiki Book Club** — Keiki ages 8-12 will meet April 17, Sgt. Yano Library, Schofield Barracks. Call 655-8002 for book titles.

community Calendar

Send announcements a week prior to publication to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

Today

**Hui O Na Wahine Luncheon** — RSVP by April 13 for this all-ranks Army spouses club luncheon, 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m., April 19, at the Nehelani, Schofield Barracks. A speaker from the USAG-HI Native Hawaiian Liaison Office will discuss the land and culture of Hawaii. Also, lei making will be taught. The event costs \$15 and includes lunch.

Hui O Na Wahine members with last names beginning with A-L should email huireservationsal@gmail.com; members with last names M-Z email huireservations-mz@gmail.com.

Spouses must be 2011-2012 members of the Hui to attend the luncheon. For membership information, email huionawahine@gmail.com or visit www.schofieldspouses.com.

14 / Saturday

**Surf and Turf 5K run** — Cheer on your favorite runners at this event, 6:30 a.m., April 14, at Marine Corps

USS MISSOURI HOSTS JOINT EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE



Photo courtesy U.S. Army Pacific Public Affairs

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM— The Hula no ke Akua dance team performs a hula at the Easter Sunrise Service, April 8, aboard the historic USS Missouri at Ford Island, here, April 8. About 450 people attended the joint service conducted by chaplains from the Army, Navy and Air Force. Chaplain (Col.) Jack VanDyken, command chaplain, U.S. Army-Pacific, delivered the sermon. The Aliamanu Military Reservation Praise Team combined with members from the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam choir to sing the opening and closing hymns. The Pacific Fleet Band Brass Quartet provided opening and closing music.

18 / Wednesday

**ACS Classes** — Attend the Exceptional Family Member Program Walking Support Group, 10:30-11:30 a.m., April 18, Kalakaua Park adjacent to ACS, Schofield Barracks. Call 655-4227.

**Hawaiian Chant** — In partnership with the Native Hawaiian Liaison Office, Sgt. Yano Library will present an interactive workshop on Hawaiian chant, or oli, 5:30-7 p.m., April 18. Learn about styles of Hawaiian chanting and voice techniques. To register, call 655-8002.

**BOSS Meetings** — Single Soldiers and geographic bachelors are invited to attend Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers, or BOSS, meetings. Call 655-1130.

Meetings dates follow:

- North community; 3 p.m., April 18, Tropics Warrior Zone (every first and third Wednesday).
- South community, 10 a.m., April 25, AMR Chapel (every second and fourth Wednesday).

**Kids \$1.99 Meal** — Every Wednesday night, keiki under 10 can eat for \$1.99 at the Kolekole Bar and Grill at Schofield Barracks or Mulligan’s Bar and Grill at Hale Ikena.

19 / Thursday

**Teen Craft Circle** — Teens can get creative with this ongoing program, 4-5 p.m., April 19, at the Sgt. Yano Library, Schofield Barracks. Call 655-8002.

21 / Saturday

**Saturday Night Strikes** — Enjoy Cosmic Bowling every third Saturday night of the month at Fort Shafter Bowling Center, while listening to DJ Bennie James. Food and beverage specials. Call 438-6733.

25 / Wednesday

**Administrative Professionals Day** — Reward yourself or the administrative professionals around you with a special luncheon at the Hale Ikena at Fort Shafter and the Nehelani at Schofield Barracks for administrative professionals. Reservations are recommended. Call 438-1974 for the Hale Ikena or 655-4466 for the Nehelani.

26 / Thursday

**Mom and Tots** — Parents and keiki work together on a creative project, 10-11 a.m., April 26, Schofield Barracks Arts and Crafts Center. Cost is \$4. Call 655-4202 to register.

**Hawaiian Luau** — Enjoy the all-you-can-eat luau buffet every last Thursday of the month at the Nehelani, Schofield Barracks. Doors open at 5 p.m.; show starts at 6:30 p.m. Preferred seating is provided for Blue Star Card holders; call in advance, as space is limited. Cost is \$30 for ages 11 and older and \$15 for ages 10 and under. For reservations, call 655-4466.

Event includes hula and fire dancers.

May

1 / Tuesday

**PT at Richardson Pool** — This pool reopens May 1. Active duty Army units can reserve the pool or portions from 6-9 a.m. for unit physical training only. Units must provide Red Cross-certified lifeguards based on the type of training and the number of Soldiers attending. Reservation forms must be completed and submitted to Richardson Pool for approval no less than two weeks before the training date.

Call 655-9698/1128 or email babette.b.hendry.naf@mail.mil.

See Briefs, B-4

Ongoing

**Food for Families** — The Armed Services YMCA at WAAF has an emergency food locker that assists military families who are experiencing financial difficulty. Available are supplies of canned goods, frozen food, dry goods and personal care items. Donations are always accepted. Call 624-5645.

**Parent Participation Preschool** — Wheeler Armed Services YMCA program is for children ages 3-4, and it helps preschool children make a smooth transition into the structure of kindergarten. Preschool Days are Monday through Friday, 9-11 a.m. Cost is \$40 month for two days a week or \$65 month for four days a week. Call 624-5645.

**Recycling Bin** — Fort Shafter Elementary invites the community to use its recycling bin in front of the school, as all monetary proceeds will benefit the school.

The following items will be accepted loosely, not in plastic bags: aluminum cans (rinsed), glass bottles and jars (rinsed, lids removed) and plastic containers (rinsed, lids removed).

Bag/box the following items before depositing: newspapers (magazines and glossy inserts removed), corrugated cardboard, and white/colored bond paper.

**Recycling Plastic** — Plastic bottle caps and lids can now be recycled at Kapahulu, Mapunapuna and Wahiawa Goodwill locations. The project aims to reduce the amount of plastic in the ocean and helps save endangered birds. Caps and lids made from No. 2, 4 and 5 type plastics are recyclable. Call 393-2168 or 656-5411.

**Twitter** — Follow the garrison at www.twitter.com/usaghi or at www.twitter.com/hawaiiarmy-wkly.

**Art on the Zoo Fence** — This event is 9 a.m.-4 p.m., every Saturday-Sunday. Fence artists set up their original paintings and photography along the fence of the Honolulu Zoo on Monsarrat Avenue across from the bandstand at Kapiolani Park. Visit www.artonthezoofence.com.

**RAP Meeting** — Get involved by attending your community’s Resident Advisory Panel. IPC residents can develop and strengthen their relationships with property management and fellow residents through the RAP. Contact your community manager for details and volunteer opportunities. Visit www.Island-PalmCommunities.com.

**Operation Kid Comfort** — This local quilting group creates comfort quilts and pillows for deployed service member children. Call 473-3398 or email PearlHarbor@asymcahi.org.

worship Services

Additional religious services, children’s programs, educational services and contact information can be found at www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil. (Click on “Religious Support Office” under the “Directorates and Support Staff” menu.)

- AMR: Aliamanu Chapel
- FD: Fort DeRussy Chapel
- HMR: Helemanu Chapel
- MPC: Main Post Chapel, Schofield Barracks
- PH: Aloha Jewish Chapel, Pearl Harbor
- SC: Soldiers’ Chapel, Schofield Barracks
- TAMC: Tripler Army Medical Center Chapel
- WAAF: Wheeler Army Airfield Chapel

**Buddhist Services**

- First Sunday, 1 p.m. at FD
- Fourth Sunday, 1 p.m. at MPC Annex

**Catholic Mass**

- Thursday, 9 a.m. at AMR
- Saturday, 5 p.m. at TAMC, WAAF
- Sunday services:
  - 8:30 a.m. at AMR
  - 10:30 a.m. at MPC Annex
  - 11 a.m. at TAMC
- Monday-Friday, 11:45 a.m. at MPC and 12 p.m. TAMC

**Gospel Worship**

- Sunday, noon. at MPC
- Sunday, 12:30 p.m. at AMR

**Islamic Prayers and Study**

- Friday, 1 p.m. at MPC Annex
- Friday, 2:30 p.m., TAMC
- Saturday and Sunday, 5:30 a.m.; 6, 7 and 8 p.m. at MPC Annex

**Jewish Shabbat (Sabbath)**

- Monday, 6 p.m. at PH (Bible Study)
- Friday, 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, 8:15 a.m. at PH

**Pagan (Wicca)**

- Friday, 7 p.m. at MPC Annex

**Protestant Worship**

- Sunday Services
  - 9 a.m. at FD, MPC and TAMC chapels
  - 9 a.m. at WAAF chapel, Lutheran/Episcopalian
  - 10 a.m. at HMR
  - 10:30 a.m. at AMR

**Single Soldiers’ Bible Study**

- Wednesday, 11:30 a.m. at SC; lunch is provided.

**Worship Service**

- Sunday, 6 p.m. at SC.

This Week at the MOVIES Sgt. Smith Theater

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Project X

(R)  
Fri., April 13, 7 p.m.  
Thurs., April 19, 7 p.m.

Journey 2: The Mysterious Island

(PG)  
Sat., April 14, 4 p.m.  
Family Matinee Day: All admissions \$2.50 for the 4 p.m. show

The Lorax

(PG)  
Sat., April 14, 7 p.m.  
Sun. April 15, 4 p.m.

Gone

(PG-13)  
Wed., April 18, 7 p.m.

No shows on Mondays or Tuesdays.

Calendar abbreviations

- 8th TSC: 8th Theater Sustainment Command
- 25th ID: 25th Infantry Division
- ACS: Army Community Service
- AFAP: Army Family Action Plan

- AFTB: Army Family Team Building
- AMR: Aliamanu Military Reservation
- BCT: Brigade Combat Team
- BSB: Brigade Support Battalion
- Co.: Company
- CYSS: Child, Youth and School Services

- EFMP: Exceptional Family Member Program
- FMWR: Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation
- FRG: family readiness group
- HMR: Helemanu Military Reservation

- IPC: Island Palm Communities
- SKIES: Schools of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills
- TAMC: Tripler Army Medical Center
- USAG-HI: U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii
- WAAF: Wheeler Army Airfield



# First Lady unveils new military spouse hiring initiative

**ELAINE SANCHEZ**  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — First lady Michelle Obama announced a new hiring effort intended to deliver thousands of portable, flexible job opportunities to military spouses and veterans in the coming years, here, April 4.

Eleven companies have pledged more than 15,000 jobs for military spouses and veterans, the first lady said, noting the vast majority of these jobs can be accomplished from home.

This commitment will make a “huge difference” for military spouses, Obama said, during a teleconference announcing the initiative.

“We’re working hard on their behalf because we’re proud of them,” the first lady said. “Having an opportunity to have a decent job ... is one of the most important ways we can support these families.”

This new effort will offer spouses thousands of



Obama

at-home employment opportunities in areas such as customer support and telemarketing, as well as jobs that are physically located near military installations, according to a White House news release. Nearly two dozen contact centers — which offer family-friendly scheduling, growth opportunities and the ability to transfer seamlessly from one center to another — have committed to hiring spouses. These companies and their job opportunities will be integrated into the Defense Department’s Military Spouse Employment Partnership, or MSEP, the release said. MSEP is an effort in which more than 100 private-sector companies have committed to a focused effort on military spouse employment.

“Whatever comes up in life along the way, these types of jobs will give them the type of flexibility and portability they’ll need to succeed, not just in their careers, but the rest of their lives, as well,” Obama said, on the conference call.

**Companies’ key commitments**

- Alpine Access pledged to recruit, train and hire more than 3,000 military-connected Americans over the next two years. The company also will launch TalentSprout, an online portal with

skill-building and job training curriculum.

These career and personal development courses will be offered free of charge to qualified members of the armed forces and to their eligible spouses and caregivers.

- Agility Marketing plans to add 100 jobs for military spouses and veterans over the next two years.
- Arise Virtual Solutions, Inc. plans to add 10,000 new independent business and client services professionals from military families over the next several years. Arise also intends to develop special programs to create awareness among military spouses and veterans.
- DialAmerica aims to increase the number of military-affiliated employees to make up 20 percent of its workforce by 2014.
- Etech Global Services has committed to hiring a minimum of 200 military spouses and veterans in next two years.
- Hilton Hotels employs nearly 800 military-related employees at their hotels and offices around the globe. In partnership with Recruit Military and other community-based organizations, Hilton Worldwide is pledging another 3.5 percent of their Hilton@Home call center posi-

tions to military spouses through 2014.

- Prosperity America intends to hire 50 more veterans and military spouses.
- QCSS Inc. will ensure a minimum of 10 percent of the forecasted 200 new hires from now through 2014 will be veterans and their families.
- Quality Contact Solutions is creating 150 work-at-home business-to-business marketing and communication jobs for military spouses over the next two years. These jobs will be in the health care and telecommunications industries.
- Veteran Call Center plans to create an additional 1,000 jobs for military spouses and veterans over the next two years.

**ACS Career Fair 2012 is today**

Army Community Service will conduct “Career Fair 12,” 10 a.m.-1 p.m., April 13, at the Kalakaua Community Center, Schofield Barracks.

Army community members will have an opportunity to connect with federal hiring agencies, local and national companies, military contractors, and staffing agencies. Call ACS at 655-4227.

# Army family JROTC members win national cyber defense award

**OFFICE OF SEN. DANIEL K. INOUE**  
News Release

WASHINGTON — Three Leilehua High School Army JROTC students, all Army family members of parents stationed at Schofield Barracks, defeated more than 1,000 other teams to win the Top Service Award from the U.S. Army at the National High School Cyber Defense Competition.

Sens. Daniel Inouye and Daniel Akaka, Rep. Mazie Hirono and the Hawaii State Department of Education made the announcement, here, March 30.

Team members Mark Gitschlag, Jhalil Tyson, Viktoria NatalRoman and Selena Peebles — who are all Army family members of parents stationed at Schofield Barracks — are the U.S. Army All 50 states were represented in the national championship held in Washington, D.C., March 22-24.

CyberPatriots replicate real-life cybersecurity situations and develop solutions to the problem. Top Service Awards were awarded to the top JROTC teams representing the Air Force, Navy, Marines and Civil Air Patrol.

Leilehua High School students advanced to the national championships after successfully completing three rounds of competition.

“The CyberPatriot competition engaged our students in real cyber security threats, showing real-world applications of science, technology, engineering and math, or STEM, lessons,” said Aloha Coleman, principal, Leilehua High School. “I applaud the hard work of our students and coaches in winning this exciting award.”

The CyberPatriot program provides students with the opportunity to gain hands-on, practical knowledge that prepares them for post-secondary education and jobs in the science, technology, engineering and math fields.

CyberPatriot is the national high school cyber defense competition created by the Air Force Association to excite, educate and motivate the next generation of cyber defenders and STEM graduates our nation needs.



Courtesy Photo

Air Force Senior Master Sgt. Mike Herr, team mentor; Cadet/Team Capt. Jhalil Tyson; Cadet Selena Peebles; Cadet Mark Gitschlag; and retired Lt. Col. Nick Spiridigliozzi, senior Army instructor/team coach, Leilehua High School, pose after the cadets, all members of Leilehua’s JROTC CyberPatriot Team, were recognized as the 2012 Army JROTC CyberPatriot IV Service Champion. The cadets are all Army family members of parents stationed at Schofield Barracks.

**Cyber Patriots**  
Learn more about the competition at  
•www.uscyberpatriot.org

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# New Army strategies focused on increased Soldier obesity

**CHANEL S. WEAVER**  
U.S. Army Public Health Command  
Public Affairs Office

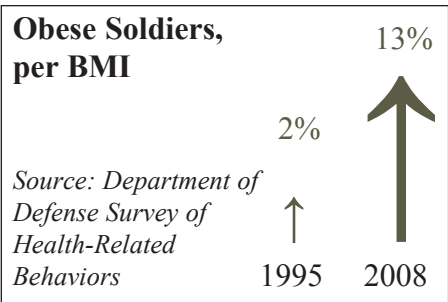
ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. — It is widely known and reported that the prevalence of obesity in the American population has been increasing over the past few years. But the Army is different, right? Soldiers are entrusted with fighting America’s wars, so they are in the best physical condition, right? Wrong.

The 2008 Department of Defense Survey of Health-Related Behaviors reports that 13 percent of the Army is currently obese, according to body mass index classifications. That number is up from only 2 percent in 1995.

Although the rate of obesity in the Army is lower than the general population, the upward trend in obesity rates closely mirrors the general population.

Also, a 2011 Army public health assessment indicates that excess body fat in the Army is associated with injury and decreased performance, which can lead to problems maintaining unit readiness.

One in six Soldiers (16.4 percent) reports difficulty in meeting the Army weight and



body fat standards. Even those Soldiers who are actually fit enough to deploy can face challenges in maintaining a healthy weight while serving in the deployed environment.

A study by the U.S. Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine and the U.S. Army Public Health Command notes that, during a deployment, diverse mission requirements may prevent Soldiers from developing consistent exercise practices or participating in sports activities.

“Literature suggests that fitness decreases and fat mass increases during deployments,” said Dr. Theresa Jackson, public health scientist, U.S. Army Public Health Command.

Obesity can lead to serious health prob-

lems if left unchecked.

“In addition to heart disease, obesity can lead to breathing problems, arthritis, cancer, diabetes and, ultimately, premature death,” said Jackson.

One platform available to help Soldiers lose weight is the USAPHC-initiated Army Wellness Center, a program that is being stood up at 38 locations across the Army in the next five years. These centers serve as community resources, providing Soldiers with lifestyle tools to improve their health and well-being.

Among their standard services, these centers offer a variety of options to help Soldiers maintain healthy weight, including metabolic testing, basic weight management and nutrition education.

The Army also recently unveiled the Soldier Fueling Initiative, spearheaded by Initial Military Training Center of Excellence and the Joint Culinary Center of Excellence and supported by the USAPHC. Mandated in February 2011, this initiative targets Army personnel who are attending basic combat training and advanced individual training at 10 sites in the continental U.S.

The program uses color-coded labeling at these training sites to indicate the health

benefit of foods and beverages. Items labeled red have low nutritional value, items that are labeled amber provide moderate nutritional content, and foods labeled with a green tag are the best options for consuming foods high in nutritional content.

While eating a balanced diet is important for Soldiers, another key to maintaining an optimal weight is engaging in regular physical activity.

“Consuming lower-fat and lower-calorie diets coupled with increased physical activity is the most effective tool to curb obesity,” said Jackson.

**Weight Maintenance**

For more information on maintaining a healthy weight, visit:

- <http://phc.amedd.army.mil/topics/healthyliving/n/Pages/default.aspx>
- [www.SurgeonGeneral.gov/topics/obesity](http://www.SurgeonGeneral.gov/topics/obesity)
- <http://hprc-online.org/>
- [www.ChooseMyPlate.gov](http://www.ChooseMyPlate.gov)
- [www.hooah4health.com](http://www.hooah4health.com)

# National Healthcare Decisions Day stresses open dialogue forum

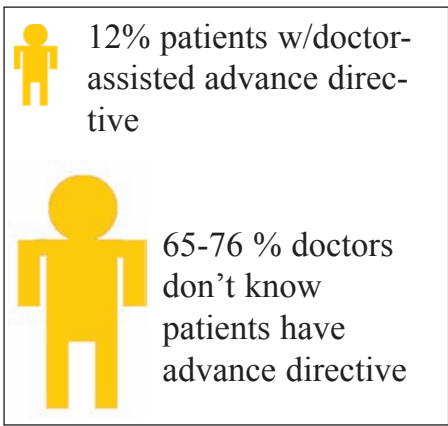
**LT. COL. MATTHEW STUDER**  
Tripler Army Medical Center

HONOLULU — Tripler Army Medical Center will join other health care facilities around the country this Monday, April 16, to recognize the fifth Annual National Healthcare Decisions Day, a day intended to inspire, educate and empower the public and providers about the importance of advance health care planning.

Too often, patients and their family members do not communicate their concerns, values and wishes regarding future health care decisions with their health care providers.

All patients have the right, as set forth by Congress in the 1990 Patient Self-Determination Act, to articulate their future health care wishes in writing in the form of an “advance directive.”

Patients should be empowered and encouraged to openly communicate their wishes regarding future health care and/or end-of-



life care they would like to receive. Also, they have the right to designate a family member, relative or friend to speak on their behalf, if unable to do so.

These wishes may be formally documented in an advance directive, which is a legal docu-

ment reflecting these advance care decisions.

According to the U.S. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, less than half of severely or terminally ill patients evaluated in a study had an advance directive in their medical record, and only 12 percent of patients with an advance directive had received input from their physician in its development.

Also, between 65 and 76 percent of physicians whose patients had an existing advance directive were not aware that it existed.

National Healthcare Decisions Day serves as an important day to recognize that early health care discussions and decisions are important and will positively impact both the care we give and the care we receive.

*(Editor's Note: Lt. Col. Matthew Studer is the chief of Pediatric Cardiology and associate chair of the Ethics Committee at Tripler Army Medical Center.)*

**Tripler AMC advance care**

Want more information on National Healthcare Decisions Day or how to create an advance directive?

Representatives from TAMC’s hospital ethics team will be available at both hospital entrances, 8 a.m.-noon, April 16, to provide information and answer questions.

Additional discussions about advance health care decisions is scheduled for noon-1 p.m., April 18, noon-1 p.m. in the 10th floor Oceanside conference room. Everyone is welcome.

For more information on National Healthcare Decisions Day, visit

- [www.nhdd.org](http://www.nhdd.org).

## FMWR Briefs

CONTINUED FROM B-2

- TAMC Pool Swim Classes** — Next scheduled registration, until filled, for “Learn to Swim” is May 1-5 at the TAMC Pool. Visit [himwr.com](http://himwr.com).
- 5 / Saturday Ladies Golf Clinic** — Leilehua Golf Course holds a free ladies golf clinic, 1:30-3 p.m., every first Saturday of the month. Call 655-4653.
- Richardson Pool Swim Classes** — Next scheduled registration, until filled, for “Learn to Swim” classes is 9:30 a.m., May 5-6, at Richardson Pool, Schofield Barracks. Visit [himwr.com](http://himwr.com).

## Ongoing

**Month of the Military Child** — Through April, patrons 18 years of age and younger can show their military ID at Schofield Barracks and WAAF bowling centers when buying games. They will be eligible to win one hour of free bowling on one lane for the winner and up to six friends. Offer includes shoe rental. The winner will be notified at the end of April, and is limited to one entry per visit. Call 655-0573.





